

### REMARKS

In the currently outstanding Official Action in the above-identified application, the Examiner has required Applicants to elect among the species represented by:

Figs. 1a-1d

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 5 (presumably meaning Fig. 4) and

Figs. 5a-5d

Further, the Examiner has require Applicants to specify which claims are readable on the species that they elect.

In response to the Examiner's requirement, Applicant hereby elect, **with traverse**, the Species represented by Figs. 1a-1d upon which Claims 1-12 are readable.

This election is made with the understanding that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim.

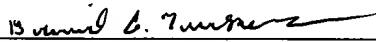
The basis for Applicants' traversal of the Examiner's requirement for election in this case is that all of the claims are directed to the novel technical concept of recording information in the depth direction in the first region of the recording medium and hence should be prosecuted concurrently in a single application. Further, Applicants respectfully note that the designated species of Fig. 2 and of Fig. 3 in fact relate to the same embodiment of the invention (Fig. 2 being a block diagram of that embodiment and Fig. 3 being a waveform diagram of the same embodiment of the invention as that shown in Fig. 2).

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Early reconsideration of the requirement for election of species in view of Applicants' traversal thereof, and consideration and allowance of this application on its substantive merits in response to this communication are earnestly and respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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